REMARKS

Reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

The Patent Examiner has rejected claims 14, 19 and 27 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by *Pacheco et al.* The Examiner has stated, however, that claim 23 is allowable. Claims 14 and 27 have been canceled without prejudice. New claim 30 includes the elements of claim 14 and allowable claim 23. Therefore, the applicant believes that new claim 30 is allowable over the above rejection. The applicant believes that since amended claim 19 depends from new claim 30, claim 19 is allowable. In addition, new claim 31 includes the elements of claim 27 as well as allowable claim 23. Therefore, the applicant believes that new claim 31 is allowable over the above rejection.

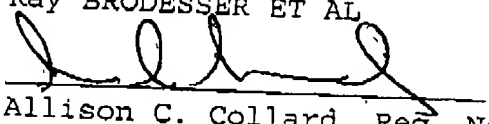
The Examiner has rejected claims 15-18 and 20-26 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pacheco et al.* In addition, the Examiner has rejected claims 20, 21, 28 and 29 under

35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pacheco et al* in view of *Choushi et al*. Furthermore, the Examiner has rejected claim 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Pacheco et al* in view of *Choushi et al*. The applicant believes that the combination of claim 14 and allowable claim 23 as new claim 30 was sufficient to make dependent claims 15-18, 20-26, and 32-34 allowable over the above cited rejections. In particular, canceled claims 24 and 25 are now rewritten as new claims 32-34 which depend from allowable claim 30. In addition, the applicant believes that claims 28 and 29 which depend from allowable claim 31 are also patentable.

Claims 14, 23-25 and 27 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 15-22, 26, 28 and 29 have been amended. New claims 30-34 have been added.

Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests early allowance of the remaining claims.

Respectfully submitted,
Kay BRODESSER ET AL



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Enclosure: Marked-up Copy of Amended Claims

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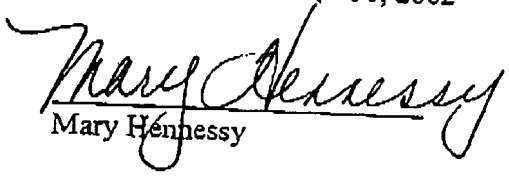

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15. (Amended) An intake system according to Claim [14] 30, [characterized in that] wherein each of said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold module[s] [(6)] is designed as a blow-molded part[, i.e., as a part produced by a blow-molding method].

16. (Amended) An intake system according to Claim [14] 30, [characterized in that] wherein each of said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold module[s] [(6)] is designed as an injection-molded part[, i.e., as a part produced by an injection-molding method].

17. (Amended) An intake system according to Claim 16, [characterized in that] wherein the injection-molding method used to produce [the] said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] works with a rotary slide technique or with a half-shell technique.

18. (Amended) An intake system according to Claim [14] 30, [characterized in that] wherein each of said at least one plastic flange module [(9)] is designed as an injection-molded part[, i.e., as a part produced by an injection-molding method], which is integrally molded onto [the minimum of] at least one of said

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plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)], where the respective pipe end [(8)] of [the] said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] is shaped in such a way that a form-fitting connection is created between [the] said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] and [the] said at least one plastic flange module [(9)].

19. An intake system according to claim [14] 30, [characterized in that] wherein said at least one plastic flange module comprises [two] a first flange module[s] [(9)] [are produced,] and a second flange module each being assigned to one cylinder block of the internal combustion engine, with [the] said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] which are arranged side-by-side being connected to [one] said first flange module [(9)] and to [the other] said second flange module [(9)] in an [alternation] alternating manner.

20. (Amended) An intake system according to claim [14] 30, [characterized in that] wherein [the] said at least one plastic flange module [(9)] extends along one side of [the] said modular plastic air distributor module [(2)] and in parallel with it, and [the minimum of] at least one of said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] is connected to an area of

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[the] said modular plastic air distributor module [(2)] that faces away from this side.

21. (Amended) An intake system according to claim [14] 30, [characterized in that] wherein [the] said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] are each connected to a top end of said [the] modular plastic air distributor module [(2)] [at the top.]

22. (Amended) An intake system according to claim [14] 30, [characterized in that] wherein each of said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] is joined to [the] said modular plastic air distributor module [(2)] by a welding method.

26. (Amended) A method of producing an intake system according to claim [14] 30, [characterized in that] wherein [the] said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] are produced by a blow-molding method; [the] said pipe ends [(8)] assigned to [a] said at least one plastic flange module [(9)] are introduced into an injection mold; [this] wherein said at least one plastic flange module [(9)] is produced by an injection-molding method wherein [the] said pipe ends [(8)] which are

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introduced into the injection mold are embedded in the material of [the] said at least one plastic flange module [(9)], and the pipe ends [(7)] assigned to the modular plastic air distributor module [(2)] are connected to the modular plastic air distributor module [(2)].

28. (Amended) An intake system according to Claim [27] 31, [characterized in that] wherein [the] said at least one plastic flange module [(9)] extends along one side of the modular plastic air distributor module [(2)] and in parallel with it, and [the minimum of] at least one of said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold module[s] [(6)] is connected to an area of [the] said modular plastic air distributor module [(2)] that faces away from this side.

29. (Amended) An intake system according to Claim [27] 31, [characterized in that] wherein [the] said plurality of one piece plastic intake manifold modules [(6)] are each connected to a top end of [the] said modular plastic air distributor module [(2)] [at the top.]